

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the present application as amended are respectfully requested.

In response to the election of species requirement, applicant elects Species VI, claim 78, a tube for attaching to bowel with a sewing ring having a notch around the circumference.

This election is made with traverse vis-a-vis Species I and VI. In view of the presence of minor differences between Species I and Species VI, it is respectfully submitted that Species I should be considered together with Species VI. Species VI, claim 78, recites a sewing ring arranged around the circumference of the tubular body whereas Species I, claim 1 (as previously set forth), recited a circumferential sewing ring arranged on the tubular portion of the body.

In view of these minor differences, claim 1 has been amended to depend from claim 78. Claims 5, 10-13, 17, 66 and 68 have also been amended to depend from claim 78 while claim 40 has been amended to depend from claim 13 which depends from claim 78. Therefore, claims 1-8, 10-17, 40-42, 44 and 66-68 now depend directly or indirectly from claim 78.

Applicant thus identifies claims 1-8, 10-17, 40-42, 44, 66-68 and 78 as being readable on the elected species.

This election is made without prejudice to filing divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the non-elected species.

Should any changes to the claims and/or specification be deemed necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the

undersigned to discuss the same.

It is believed that this Amendment is being timely filed. In the event that any other extensions and/or fees are required for the entry of this Amendment, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is specifically authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1268 in the name of Brian Roffe.

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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